



**Financial Statements and Associated Reports
for 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024
presented to the Annual Parochial Church
meeting held on 30 March 2025.**



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1. Vicar's Report

Rev'd Paul Neville, Vicar's Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Sunday 30th March 2025

Following Jesus, Serving our Community.

Welcome to Holy Trinity with St Mark APCM, and thank you for joining us, I would like to thank you all for this opportunity to gather together to reflect, as we look back over the past year and to give thanks to God for all that we have done in His name and for His glory in this church and the wider parish.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting – (APCM) is a legal requirement where the PCC present financial accounts and reports from all departments of our church and where we are reminded of our purpose and calling as the church in this community, that is...

The church is called to be pastoral – to look after the individual people; to be evangelistic – to tell people the Good News and invite them to accept it; to be social – to help the poorer members of society, and those suffering from racial, economic and other forms of injustice; and to be ecumenical – to encourage good relations with other Christian denominations.

This is my twelfth APCM. As we look back over the past year 2024 together, I am always blessed by the process of looking back together. Each year we get a greater sense of our purpose, the mission which God calls us to partake in, to constantly welcome everyone who comes through the doors of our church. St Paul called the church 'the body of Christ' which gives us an image of a fully functioning and varied body of people working together following Jesus, serving the community.

In 2024 yet again brought both blessings and sadness. We remember those who we lost, Thelma Hearn, Kathlen Carr, Doug Sission, Brian Smith, Peter Wilson. May they Rest in Peace and rise in glory.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a primary importance to enable us to promote our church as a safe place for everyone. It is essential that all who engage in some form of ministry and service have a DBS check and fulfil the required safeguarding training provided by the Diocese under the leadership of Beth Miller and Wendy Hodgson. The training is mainly online with some face-to-face options for those who prefer that mode of learning. Safeguarding is the responsibility of us all, each member of the church has a responsibility to one another, which is entirely biblical. The Church of England has had a huge shake up over the past year because of the lack of Safeguarding and accountability. It is imperative that we take safeguarding seriously as a church.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Thank you to Jo Ford -Leadbeater our Parish Safeguarding Officer and for leading us in this aspect of church governance. Please remember if ever you have a concern about anything within the church, please speak to Jo, immediately. Do not leave it to someone else. When in doubt ask.

Rev John

Losing Thelma last year was especially difficult for us all. Thelma was alongside John as a wonderful wife and mother. Thelma made a huge contribution to the life of our church and was dearly loved by us all. When Thelma and John joined us here at Holy Trinity we very quickly felt the blessings that they would bring to our church. Christine and I had and have a strong bond with Thelma which continues with John. I continue to be blessed to minister alongside John, I know only too well that I couldn't have the ministry I have without his assistance and support. May John know the deep love of all our church for him now and in the years to come.

Rev Jane

Rev Jane completed her Curacy with us last year and was formally installed as the Anglican Chaplain at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS trust. It was an amazing service that marked a long and challenging journey for Jane.

Connie Robinson

Thank you to Connie for your ministry and all that you do for our church. We all know that you too have had your health problems and we continue to pray for you.

Church Administrator

Once again may I say thank you to Sue on your behalf and from me personally for the ever-increasing role she has serving our church in such a proficient way, not only running the office, but as Gift Aid coordinator and supporter of all that we do as a church. Despite a challenging year for Sue and Malcolm she has continued to do all she can to look after the admin of our church.

Churchwardens

Gemma Robson and David Patterson have served us so well during the past year yet again. I am personally grateful to them both in the way that we work together so well and that I can rely on them both in such a way that enables me to attend to other matters of importance.

Being a churchwarden is a huge ask and a privilege, but it sometimes comes at a cost and I hope that our church congregation not only appreciate what they do but express it too.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

PCC Secretary

At last year's APCM brought Doreen's 17 year role as PCC secretary to retirement. It was then that the PCC approved Joanne as our new PCC secretary, and she has served us remarkably well. Thank you Joanne for your hard work.

Baptism Ministry

Thank you to Connie Robinson for not only in her role as Licensed Lay Minister but as Baptism Coordinator. The system we have currently, has been working really well after the Sunday morning service. The families appreciate your care and help in the coordination of our baptisms.

Finance and Stewardship

2024 was indeed a year of change which included the retirement of our Treasurer Mike Blake. We are grateful for the hard work that Mike did for us over a number of years. It was a relief that Jennifer Stewart came forward to carry on this very important role within the broader remit of finance.

Stewardship is of course the responsibility of us all. God calls us to not only be good stewards of all that we have that comes from Him, but also to be generous with what we give and share. Every APCM is the point in the year when we all review our financial giving to our church, which is in fact giving to God. It is very often easy to forget to increase our giving to enable our church to flourish. It falls to me as the Incumbent to ask if all members of church consider the level of giving as we look to the future in faith and trust with thanksgiving for all that God provides for us. If you need any help/advice regarding planned regular giving please do speak to me or Jennifer. If you can Gift Aid your giving please speak to Sue Gordon for help and the necessary documents. I was extremely blessed by the generous gift of £5,000 so that we could install professional camera and sound equipment so that we could improve the live stream of our service on a Sunday morning. May I thank those of you who give so generously and sacrificially to the church we all love.

In order that you are informed, the running costs for our church are £2,000 per week. Your giving is essential to make it possible for us to enjoy the church we enjoy.

PCC

Thank you to the PCC, we continue to be a great team working together to be a light to our community, a place of encounter and discipleship. The PCC's role is not just a committee responsible for the management of the church working with the Vicar, but a body of people who seek to make disciples of one another and the wider church.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Children and young people's ministry

Last year we have started to see the green shoots of growth among our children and young people. Our small team have done remarkably well, working together in establishing a consistent approach to how we work with and the development of Junior Church. Please do pray for our children and young people in their journey of faith. It was wonderful to see eight of our young ones getting confirmed in October.

Ignite youth club is now in its fifth year and is doing well, staffed by yet another great and committed team. Thank you again for all that you do to enable our work to continue.

Worship

In 2024, we had a large donation specifically for professional camera equipment to make the live streaming of our services more professional. The technology was installed and training given. Thank you to Mark, Gemma and David who helped in the acquisition of the new system and being willing to help run it on a Sunday morning. It was also encouraging that Chris offered to join the team.

We continue with Ising, a computer-based software and Song Select to enable our worship to be meaningful and nourishing. It has not been possible to reinstate our music group post Covid, and so we will continue with Ising. Thank you to Gemma for coordinating and selecting the hymns and songs each Sunday.

The Eucharist is central to our Sunday worship with preaching shared between Rev John and Connie.

Area Dean

I continue in my wider role as Area Dean of Stockton on Tees with the added role of Chaplain to the Mayor of Stockton on Tees. Mr John Gardner was last year's Mayor and it was a privilege for me in that role to lead the Act of Remembrance at the High Street Cenotaph on 11th November.

Summary

It has been wonderful to welcome some new members to our church family, you know who you are and thank you for your contribution to the life of our church. Like so many churches we have had to face growing challenges of mission and evangelism. It is imperative that we have a strong vision and sense of purpose going forward. It is my continued prayer that you catch the vision of a church that grows in its generosity, in service, committed to the sharing of the 'Good News' of Jesus with confidence to a community that needs to hear the life-transforming message. Let us pray and commit our lives to following Jesus and serving our community in Jesus' name.

Rev P Neville - Vicar

2. Independent Examiner's Report

HOLY TRINITY WITH ST MARK INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the notes to the accounts.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 14S(5)(b) of the Act.

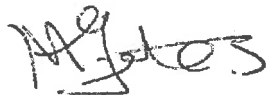
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect.

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Church as required by section 130 of the act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with my examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

SIGNED:



DATE:

11/03/2025

Holy Trinity with St Mark

HOLY TRINITY WITH ST MARK STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 202

INCOMING RESOURCES	2024	2023
A Voluntary Income/Receipts		
1 Regular giving	30865.20	35635.00
3 Collections at services	12413.01	5489.00
	<u>43278.21</u>	<u>41124.00</u>
4 All other donations	1026	28359.00
6 Gift Aid recovery	9671.96	8929.00
7 Legacies	0	1571.00
8 Grants	1800	11000.00
	<u>12497.96</u>	<u>49859.00</u>
Total Voluntary Income	<u>55776.17</u>	<u>90983.00</u>
B Activities for Generating Funds		
9 Gross income from Fund raising activities/event	6331.14	4269.00
Income from Investments		
10 Dividends and Interest	2874.47	3192.00
Church Activities		
11 Statutory fees retained by PCC	8260.6	442.00
<i>(weddings, funerals etc, Gen8, Children and Youth work, Tots and Ignite inc. in above)</i>		
Children and Youth Work, Tots, Ignite	0	3610.00
Gross income from Boomerang	17976.88	15714.00
Gross Trading income (Hall letting)	2830	1695.00
	<u>38273.09</u>	<u>28922.00</u>
C Other income	<u>211.20</u>	0.00
	<u>211.20</u>	0.00
Total Incoming Resources (A+B+C)	<u>94260.46</u>	<u>119905.00</u>

**HOLY TRINITY WITH ST MARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

RESOURCES EXPENDED	2024	2023
Cost of generating income		
17 Fundraising activities	4274.48	5410.00
18 Mission and Donations	0	187.00
19 Parish share	44000	40000.00
20 Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	6566.72	6523.00
21 Clergy and Staff expenses	11152.12	11342.00
	65993.32	63462.00
Church expenses		
23 Church running expenses	11476.56	7084.00
24 Utility Bills	7039.13	5648.00
25 Cost of Trading (lettings, Parish magazine etc)	0	409.00
	18515.69	13141.00
Major Capital Expenditure		
28 Church building	3648	23739.00
	3648	23739.00
23.1 Governance Costs	0	1739.00
		1739.00
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	88157.01	102081.00

ASSETS	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Tangible fixed assets	18,000	9900	8800	8000	8000
Bank current account	62411.95	50305	55472	27523	9449
Petty Cash in Hand	0	20	24	24	47
DBF Account	76310.48	73436	40243	39699	39699

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Notes on funds

Designated funds represent fundraising for St Mark's capital fund is held with the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance. The fund is unrestricted and regarded by the PCC as for use to support the parish.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and signed on their behalf.


..... (Minister for Holy Trinity with St Mark)


..... (PCC member)

..... 17th March Date 2025 .

Independent Examiner:

Mr J Gates
105 Upsall Grove
Fairfield
Stockton on Tees

Date:

4. PCC Report

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 28th April 2024

Welcome Chairman Rev'd Neville welcomed everyone and opened the Meeting with Prayers. There were 31 people in attendance

Apologies from Thelma Hearn, Jennifer and Tony Stewart, Bruce Merrick and Rev'd Jane Easterby, and David Patterson.

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting - held on 14th May 2023 were read and approved and signed as a true record.

Election of Church Wardens:

Mrs Gemma Robson:- (Proposed by Sue Gordon, seconded by Bruce Merrick)

Mr David Patterson:- (Proposed by Sue Gordon, seconded by Bruce Merrick) All were in favour.

They were duly elected at the Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 28th April 2024

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – held on 14th May 2023 were read, approved and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising - There were no Matters Arising

Presentation of the Annual Church Accounts

The Accounts were accepted after they had been ratified by the PCC at their last meeting. Rev'd Paul Neville reminded everyone to please be generous in your giving. The Church pays about £4,000 a month in Parish Share to help cover costs, plus Utilities etc. all unseen costs. Rev'd Paul thanked Mike Blake for all his work involved in doing the accounts not only the weekly accounts but collating the Annual Accounts.

Mike also would like it recorded our thanks to Ivor for his advice and ensuring the Insurance premiums were paid promptly which paid off when we had the flood in the latter part of 2023.

Mike also wanted his thanks to Rev'd Paul mentioned when we had the flood, Rev'd Paul worked tirelessly to ensure the Church opened in time for Advent. Mike has indicated he is thinking of retiring as Treasurer and with that in mind Rev'd Paul had spoken to Jennifer Stewart, who was the previous Treasurer. It is hoped she will take over in a phased return. We gave Mike a round of applause to show our grateful thanks for his 5 years as Treasurer.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Election of Deputy Churchwarden

Barbara Porritt has agreed to carry on as Deputy Church Warden.

Proposed by Doreen Crinson, seconded by Anne Daly.

All were in favour.

Safeguarding

Kelly Adekunle has agreed to continue as our Safeguarding Officer, but she is coming off the PCC:

PCC Members

Jennifer Stewart has been proposed as a PCC Member. Proposed by Sue Gordon, seconded Gemma Robson. All were in Favour

Joanne Curtis has been proposed as a PCC Member. Proposed by Sue Gordon. All were in favour.

Church Report

Rev'd Paul Neville thanked Rev'd John Hearn for being such a support to him and also our Church, although he is supposed to be retired he continues in helping wherever he can.

Rev'd Paul expressed his deep gratitude to both John and Thelma for their support. Connie Robinson has served this church well, in all her Ministry, and she leads the Lay Readers. Everyone gave John, Thelma and Connie a round of applause to show their appreciation. Rev'd Paul thanked Sue Gordon for her work as Parish Administrator. Rev'd Paul said he couldn't do what he does without all that Sue does in her role.

Rev'd Paul also wanted to thank the Rev'd Jane Easterby, although she has only been here about 18 months it seems as though she has been here forever. She is part of the team.

Jane was a SSM(Self Supporting Minister).

Rev'd Paul thanked Doreen for 17 years as PCC Secretary. He was very grateful we worked well together.

Rev'd Paul thanked all of us, and what we all bring to the Church.

Junior Church

Val Robinson is Junior Church leader, and it's good to see the young people participating in Church again. Thank you Val for you and your team as leaders of Junior Church. We are still trying to get a Youth Pastor, without success.

The Flood was an extremely difficult time for all, but with a lot of help from everyone it was worth all the hard work.

Kathryn and Mark Kennedy deserve to be mentioned they do a tremendous amount of work, often unseen but we are really grateful for them. The Electoral Roll has 133 members.

After Prayers the Rev'd Paul closed the APCMM.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Holy Trinity with St. Mark's PCC (1st PCC Meeting)

The next PCC meeting is on 20th May 2024 at 7pm in Church. A current list of PCC meetings has already been sent to members.

Mike Blake is happy to continue as Treasurer, with Jennifer Stewart as assistant Treasurer. It was Proposed by Rev'd Paul Neville, seconded by Shirley Perkins. All were in favour.

Joanne Curtis agreed to be Secretary. It was Proposed by Connie Robinson, seconded by Shirley Perkins. All were in favour.

The Archdeacons Visitation is on 18th June 2024 at Billingham St.Aidan, Tintern Avenue, Billingham TS23 2DF. Registration and tea or coffee from 6.30pm.

Visitation and swearing in of Church Wardens will start at 7.15pm.

5. PCC Secretary's Report

We started off with a newly refurbished kitchen and Church hall after last year's flood. It was lovely having a brand new floor, a great start for 2024.

During the year the PCC discussed many topics ensuring the smooth running of the Church. The PCC of Holy Trinity with St. Mark operate a 3 year rolling programme, which means you join the PCC for 3 years, then come off for a year, then you can rejoin the PCC again if you wish. This enables everyone to get a chance to experience the running of the Church.

At the APCM in April 2024 Doreen Crinson retired as Secretary and Joanne Curtis took over. Anyone who is our Safeguarding Officer, a Reader, Church Warden and Deputy Church Warden, and on Deanery Synod are automatically on the PCC. The Treasurer and Secretary are elected each year.

Members of the PCC at 2024

Reverend Paul Neville Priest in Charge
Michael Blake) Treasurer (Until April 2024)
Jennifer Stewart) Treasurer (From April 2024)
Doreen Crinson Secretary (until 28th April 2024)
Joanne Curtis Secretary (From 28 April 2024)
Mark Kennedy Defibrillator Contact
David Patterson Church Warden
Barbara Porritt Deputy Church Warden
Kelly Adekunle, Safeguarding Officer
Doreen Crinson) PCC Secretaries
Joanne Curtis)

Eb Adekunle
Barbara Darling
Shirley Perkins
Christine Robertson
Val Robinson
Bruce Merrick Deanery Synod
Connie Robinson Reader
Gemma Robson Church Warden
Tony Stewart Deanery Synod

6. Church Warden's Report

It's a privilege to serve you all as Church Warden for another year and I have enjoyed working alongside David and the support he has brought me throughout.

I am thankful for the hard work and dedication from members of our congregation, who continuously show up, help set up and run activities we do in church on a weekly basis. Barbara and Malcolm, Kathryn and Mark and many other willing servants.

We have enjoyed our traditional church fayres at Easter and at Christmas which were a success. Extra activities such as the barn dance are always well attended and enjoyed by all ages in our community.

Our What's App group continues to be a great way of reaching out to our Church family and sharing prayers and news.

Thank you to Rev Paul, Rev John and Connie for leading our services, spiritually with compassion and empathy, guiding our services with confidence and poise. We were sad to see Rev Jane leave for her new exciting role in the hospital.

Thank you to Sue for being a hardworking friendly face in the office. She supports me with love and friendship on a daily basis.

Thank you to Mike for all the time he put into our finances over the last year and he will be missed as he takes some time away.

Thank you to David, Ann, Pat and Val for the singing on a Sunday morning, guiding the congregation in responding to God's grace and goodness.

Thank you to Mark for helping with the screens on a Sunday morning and assisting with extra services that take place. Welcome to Chris who has spent some time learning our system and has started to lead the screens some Sunday mornings.

Thank you to our team of junior church leaders who put time and effort into making sure our children are learning the Gospel on a Sunday morning.

Thank you to the whole of the PCC and welcome to our new PCC Secretary Joanne Curtis.

Our prayers remain with lots of our Church family who are missed so dearly.

Here's to another blessed and faithful year.

Gemma Robson Church Warden



7. Boomerang Report

Last year we were awarded a grant to enable us to provide childcare for more children under 2 years as the new funding from 9 month old was rolled out in September. We were able to fill the 21 baby spaces that were created.

Our preschool is also currently full and we have a waiting list for all ages.

At Boomerang we aim to provide activities around the children's interests following their lead, we then enhance their learning to enable each child to reach their full potential.

We include festivals, celebrations, charity and themed days, encouraging the children to be part of the bigger community. We are lucky enough to have fabulous outdoor spaces as the children love spending time outdoors in all weather. We plan lots of sensory activities, slime, playdough, gloop...as this is a favourite for our children.



Jo Ford Leadbeater – Boomerang Manager

8. Electoral Roll Report

The number of names on the Electoral Roll at the APCM on 28 April 2024 was 133. There was an increase of three names on the previous year.

Kathryn Kennedy

9. Safeguarding Report

Parish Safeguarding Officers Report 2024

1) Report Details

Period of 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024

Submitted by Kelly Adekunle (Parish Safeguarding Officer up to 2 September 2024)

2) Disclosures

0 x Disclosures

3) Parish Dashboard

The safeguarding dashboard is used regularly to support our team and actions are reviewed and carried out where required.

4) Policy / Procedure

The safeguarding policy is displayed on the church notice board. Incident forms are kept in the church office.

5) Contact Information

Details for PSO can be found on the church website and notice board.

6) Training

All staff & volunteers are up to date with the relevant training for their role. To be reviewed early 2025.

Kelly Adekunle

Parish Safeguarding Officer

10. Magazine Report

As usual we produced six reports in 2024. Thank you to everyone who contributed. I know there are some people on WhatsApp and hope this keeps them in touch and to those who are not able to come back to Church.

Thanks to Sue for the printing and to Pat and Michael for proof reading.

Anne Daly

11. Deanery Synod Report

Stockton Deanery Synod is a group of representatives from every parish in the Stockton area, and all clergy (vicars, curates and open to retired clergy) and meets 4-5 times per year. The aim is to provide a link between parishes, sharing things we do well and things we struggle with and tackle bigger issues such as what our Deanery Plan is. This covers what our mission is across Stockton, either together or as separate parishes and where we appoint our clergy.

2024 meetings focussed on growth and discipleship across the Deanery with opportunities for churches to share what they are doing and all input into planning how we use the resources the Diocese gives as part of our Deanery plan.

Lucy Falcus

12 Music Report

We continue to use I Sing on a Sunday morning as part of our worship. This gives us the opportunity to play music with voices and words for us to sing along to. We use Pro Presenter to display services onto the screens each week. We now have a camera installed and can seamlessly stream our Sunday morning services through Facebook for those at home, unable to make it.

I look forward to further developing our worship by adding new songs to learn as a congregation. Thank you to everyone who is involved in our music and to Mark and Chris for helping with the screens and setting up on a Sunday morning.

“With songs in our hearts, our spirits will be lifted to the heavenly bliss”.

Gemma Robson
Church Warden

13. Café Generate Report

Generate challenges remain slightly this year.

- a) Teachers no longer attend each Thursday but recently redundant staff visit each week and are very welcome. Also retired staff visit every four weeks for their monthly catchup.
- b) The simple summer time menu was well appreciated (watch this space for new menu).

Grateful thanks must go to all “volunteers” who work timelessly:

- a) Shopping (Wednesdays)
- b) Cake and soup making (Wednesdays)
- c) Early preparation (Thursday morning)
- d) Following Generate cleaning the decks and kitchen – tables/chairs replaced ready for Boomerang at 2.45 pm.

Thank you all for turning up and for those who don't a Trinity welcome is waiting for you and especially for all the “taxi services”.

Total income	£2,548.18
Less expenses	£ <u>577.00</u>
Total Achievement	£ <u>1,971.00</u>

Barbara Burns

14. Trinity Tots Report

It was lovely to get back to Thursday mornings and a new kitchen in place after the flood.

We started with lots of new mums, dad's, childminders and grandparents but it wasn't long before many friendships were made as they chatted over their tea coffee and biscuits. It is so important for the Church to reach out to the community and make these mums, Dads, childminders and grandparents welcome and be involved in our Church life and activities and to see families and friends in our congregation on a Sunday morning witnessing their children being baptised.

Our Christmas party once again proved very popular with Father Christmas giving out presents to very excited children, though some still shy away from having their photographs taken with him.!!!

Special thanks to Kathryn, Shirley and Heather for their help and support each week we could not manage without them .

Barbara Porritt

15. Fundraising/Social Events Report

2024 once again proved to be well attended and appreciated.

The usual success was the Barn Dance

Money raised	£852.60
Less expenses	£446.97
Money paid in	<u>£416.73</u>
Valentine Raffle	<u>£777.23</u>
Choir concert	<u>£284.00</u>
Quiz Night (faith Supper)	<u>£486.90</u>
Harvest Lunch	£247.00
Less expenses	£ 72.08
Paid in	<u>£175.12</u>
Total monies paid in	£4,003.02
Less expenses	£ 669.82
	<u>£3,334.02</u>

Thanks must go to everyone behind the scenes who work hard enabling us to achieve a very enjoyable evening and of all ages and special thanks to Anne Daly who keeps us in touch with band and caller for the Barn Dance and also to those who attend.

Barbara Burns

16. Junior Church Report

Twenty children have attended Junior Church over the past year. We have continued to follow the Roots Magazine curriculum, and have explored passages from both the Old and New Testaments through discussion, music, art, drama and craft activities.

In May 2024 some of our older children shared an afternoon of fellowship and bowling at Hollywood Bowl. We now have a What's App group, and this is helping us organise other activities for our young people to take part in.

Many thanks to the nine volunteers who have helped lead Junior Church over the past year. They are a great team.

Val Robinson

17. AED – Defibrillator Report

The Church has had its AED for public use since 27/09/22.

On this date, the AED status went Emergency Ready and is linked to *The Circuit*.

This is the national defibrillator network for the UK.

Since January 1 to the end of 2024, I have received eight emails from The Circuit saying that the AED may have been used on all occasions, the AED has never been used on a patient.

The frequency of these emails has varied in the past year.

For example, the longest period between emails has been almost six months. The shortest period has been two emails on the same day. This was Christmas Day.

We have a *Church AED WhatsApp group* of Eb Adekunle, Gemma Robson and David Patterson who have been very helpful in assisting me in looking after the AED.

Mark Kennedy

18. Ignite Youth Club

Another year has passed and time for another report.

Unfortunately, due to health reasons, Mike Blake had to take a step back and was unable to help for some of the year. On behalf of all, we thank Mike for all that he has done to help over the years.

We have been blessed with Dominic Walker, Judith Muir and Enid Popple joining the team in the last year and it's great to have them all on board.

It's been lovely to see children attend, not only from Holy Trinity School but also Ian Ramsey, St Mark's, Fairfield Primary and Hartburn Primary. Evidence if there was ever any needed that the youth club is there for all. Unfortunately, numbers have dropped lately but those children who come week in, week out enjoy their time with us and leave full of sugar from our well stocked tuck shop.

During the summer months when the weather is better (allegedly!) and the nights are brighter, we use the outside space for games which attracts more children. At present, we are stuck inside but making the most of what we can with music and games. We had a disco in December which was hugely enjoyed by all as was a visit from Santa.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

There are several surprises planned for 2025 which we will introduce as numbers increase and the weather improves. As a church family, we should all pull together to mention what we offer to those who we know with school children of year 3 and above. It is great fun and brings out the best in the children who attend. Please spread the word to those you know and emphasise that it is an open invite to all children, from any school.

We could not run the youth club without the incredible help and support of those who help on a regular basis for which I can't thank you enough so many thanks to the following:

Andy Byers; Barbara Porritt; Christine Neville; Dawn Bramley; Dominic Walker; Enid Popple; Gemma Robson; Jo Ford-Leadbearer, Judith Muir; Kathryn Kennedy; Mark Kennedy; Paul Neville; Shirley Perkins; Stew Leadbeater & Val Robinson
We are always looking for extra help so if you feel that you could give up a couple of hours once every few weeks then please let us know.

Here's to another great year ahead of us.

David Patterson